

be controlled with medication—heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, clinical depression, and rheumatoid arthritis—its objective is to reduce complications and unnecessary hospitalizations, making it possible for seniors with these ailments to take their medication regularly, and to mitigate high costs for the seniors who spend the most on medication.

In addition, I supported the amendments to the Agriculture Appropriations bill which would allow for the bulk re-importation of FDA approved prescription drugs from FDA approved facilities in Canada and Mexico. These amendments, which had the overwhelming support of both the House and Senate, are a free market solution that increases choices and lowers the costs of prescription drugs for all Americans. Enactment of these bipartisan measures would enable more seniors to have access to safe and effective prescription drugs.

Neither H.R. 1796 nor the re-importation amendments are the final solution to the prescription drug crisis but they are critically important first steps.

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the benefit of the Members, copies of letters between the Committee on Resources, and TOM BLILEY, Chairman, Committee on Commerce, regarding the jurisdiction of S. 964.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, October 17, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
*Chairman, Committee on Resources,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR DON: I am writing with regard to S. 964, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act. I understand that this legislation, as considered by the House, includes the text of S. 2439, a bill to authorize the appropriation of funds for the construction of the Southeastern Alaska Intertie system, and for other purposes. As you know, S. 2439 falls within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce pursuant to Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Because of the importance of this legislation, I recognize your desire to bring it before the House in an expeditious manner. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, however, the Committee on Commerce does not waive its jurisdiction over S. 964. In addition, the Commerce Committee reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Commerce Committee for conferees on S. 964 or similar legislation.

I request that you include this letter and your response as part of the Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

TOM BLILEY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, October 18, 2000.

Hon. TOM BLILEY,
*Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the amendments to S. 964, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act. You are correct that the amendment to that bill includes the text of S. 2439, a bill to authorize the appropriation of funds for the construction of the Southeastern Alaska Intertie system, and for other purposes. S. 2439 was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The Alaska Intertie system is critically important to my constituents, so I appreciate your willingness not to insist on a referral of S. 964 so that it can be voted on by the House of Representatives today. I agree that your forbearance does not affect any jurisdictional interest that you would have in S. 964 as amended, and if a conference on the bill becomes necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Commerce be represented on the conference committee.

Thank you again for your cooperation on this matter and on many others during my service as Chairman of the Committee on Resources. It has been a privilege and a pleasure working with you and your staff these last six years.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE JOHN E. PORTER, MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA- TIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2000

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep feeling of gratitude mixed with a profound sense of loss that we bid farewell to our most valued colleague, JOHN EDWARD PORTER. His retirement from this Congress is well earned, but because he is a unique person he is literally irreplaceable.

He has brought his rare gifts of intelligence and compassion together with a prodigious work ethic to bear on some of the most consequential problems faced by a free people. His leadership, over the many years, of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services has been unmatched in the history of the Appropriations Committee. Justice and humanity have animated all his work, and JOHN is one Congressman who has added credibility and idealism and generosity of spirit to this Congress.

A gentleman in the fullest sense of the term, a deeply thoughtful person possessed of the largest heart and soul of anyone I have ever met, I wish him a tranquil sea and that he might know in what high esteem he is held by all fortunate enough to call him friend.

October 19, 2000

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on October 18, 2000 the House debated and voted on H. Res. 631, "Honoring the Members of the Crew of the Guided Missile Destroyer U.S.S. *Cole* Who Were killed or Wounded in the Terrorist Attack on that Vessel in Aden, Yemen, on October 12, 2000", H. Con. Res. 415, National Children's Memorial Day, and H.R. 3218, the Social Security Number Confidentiality Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 631, (rollcall vote No. 531), "yea" on H. Con. Res. 415 (rollcall vote No. 532), and "yea" on H.R. 3218 (rollcall vote No. 533).

INTRODUCTION OF THE NOTIFICA- TION AND FEDERAL EMPLOYEE ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND RE- TALIATION ACT

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, as the Chairman of the Committee on Science, I believe open discourse at federal agencies is necessary for sound science. Intolerance inhibits, if not prevents, thorough scientific investigation.

Accordingly, I was very disturbed by allegations that EPA practices intolerance and discrimination against its scientists and employees. For the past year, the Committee on Science has investigated numerous charges of retaliation and discrimination at EPA, and unfortunately they were found to have merit.

The Committee held a hearing in March 2000, over allegations that agency officials were intimidating EPA scientists and even harassing private citizens who publicly voiced concerns about agency policies and science. While investigating the complaints of several scientists, a number of African-American and disabled employees came to the Committee expressing similar concerns. One of those employees, Dr. Marsha Coleman-Adebayo, won a \$600,000 jury decision against EPA for discrimination.

It further appears EPA has gone so far as to retaliate against some of the employees and scientists that assisted the Science Committee during our investigation. In one case, the Department of Labor found EPA retaliated against a female scientists for, among other things, her assistance with the Science Committee's work. The EPA reassigned this scientist from her position as lab director at the Athens, Georgia regional office effective November 5, 2000—a position she held for 16 years—to a position handling grants at EPA headquarters. In the October 3 decision, the Department of Labor directed EPA to cancel the transfer because it was based on retaliation.

EPA's response to these problems has been to claim that they have a great diversity